

THE NOCTUOID MOTHS OF THE ANTILLES—PART I  
(LEPIDOPTERA: DIOPTIDAE)

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*Abstract.*—The single species of Dioptidae recorded from the Antilles is *Josia draconis* (Druce). This Central and South American species was reported from Jamaica, but the record is doubtful.

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Only one species of the family Dioptidae has been recorded from the Antilles. *Josia draconis* (Druce) was reported from Jamaica by Prout (1918:422). The specimen on which this record was based is in the collection of the British Museum (Natural History). It is labeled "Jamaica 88.30 581." The number "88.30" is a registration number and means No. 30 of 1888. Recorded under this number in the British Museum (Natural History) is the information that this lot contained Lepidoptera from Australia, Chile, etc., and they were purchased from a Mr. Mathew. I question whether the specimen is correctly labeled, and I would be very surprised if subsequently other specimens were discovered that were taken in Jamaica. The last treatment of the moths of Jamaica (Gowdey, 1926) does not list the species nor was Jamaica included as a locality by Hering (1925: 526). Nevertheless the species is treated and illustrated at this time to alert collectors to the possible, if unlikely, occurrence in the Antilles.

*Josia draconis* (Druce)

Fig. 1

*Actea? draconis* Druce, 1885: 145, pl. 14, fig. 6. San Juan, Panama.

*Brachyglene draconis* (Druce), Kirby, 1892: 408.

*Josia draconis* (Druce), Prout, 1918: 422.—Hering, 1925: 526, pl. 70, row h.—Bryk, 1930: 45.

Twenty-six specimens of this species are in the collection of the U.S. National Museum from Panama, British Guiana, and Amazonian Brazil. The species is illustrated in color by Druce (1885) and Hering (1925). In the series of specimens in the U.S. National Museum, some examples from



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Fig. 1. *Josia draconis*, adult, dorsal view, 2 $\times$ , from Athajuelo, Panama.

Brazil have the pale transverse bar of the forewing suffused with orange instead of straw yellow. The pale median spot of the hindwings is pink.

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